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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/737,255	12/15/2003	Peter Mori	0127-086P	5809
22831 7590 03/02/2007 SCHWEITZER CORNMAN GROSS & BONDELL LLP 292 MADISON AVENUE - 19th FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10017			EXAMINER KRUER, STEFAN	
			ART UNIT 3654	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 03/02/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action  
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

10/737,255

Applicant(s)

MORI ET AL.

Examiner

Stefan Kruer

Art Unit

3654

**--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

THE REPLY FILED 12 February 2007 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

**AMENDMENTS**

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because  
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);  
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);  
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or  
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

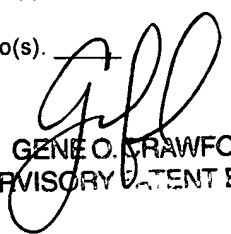
4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).  
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.  
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).  
7. ☐ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.  
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:  
Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) rejected: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_.

**AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE**

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).  
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).  
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER**

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:  
See Continuation Sheet.  
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_  
13. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

  
GENE O. CRAWFORD  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:

The review of engaging braking components each comprising unique materials having dissimilar frictional properties has been reviewed in the previous office actions, which the arguments of the noted filing date fail to overcome. The aforementioned review follows.

US Elevator, while teaching the concept of fixed and movable blocks engaging an intermediary cable, was limiting in his review of the materials of the brake blocks other than disclosing the low frictional resistance of his fixed block and stating the braking effect is primarily achieved by his movable block, hence the movable block providing a higher frictional resistance. The fixed brake block of US Elevator serves as a braking surface as well as a guide for the cable, whereby a groove is provided in which the cable can be frictionally engaged by the surfaces of both the fixed and movable blocks. That the brake blocks of the instant invention do not provide this feature does not render the prior art of US Elevator as inapplicable. Again, the fixed brake block of US Elevator clearly offers a braking force, which US Elevator defines as "relatively low" in comparison to that of his movable block.

Grupp et al teach conventional brake blocks being made of nodular cast iron that generate lower frictional forces and undesirable deposits requiring manual removal, whereas their inventive frictional material comprises up to 99% of an alloy of aluminum and bronze offering "... a low-maintenance... brake, in which no build-up deposits occur..." while ensuring "...braking power ...identical ... or superior to that of ... brakes with steel...", whereby their friction material may be in the form of a "compact block" as well. Furthermore, Grupp et al teach the preference for several elements and/or their combinations including tin, copper, aluminum, nickel and zinc, as well as alloys thereof, which are amongst the primary components in the formation of aluminum-bronze and therefore in the family of materials as known in the art.

Furthermore, the prior art of reference in preceeding office actions, notably Jones et al, teach their "...braking component may be any component that generates a braking or frictional force..." whereby their braking components comprises dissimilar materials, specifically a ceramic-metal composite (CMC) and cast iron, the former of which may include an "exemplary aluminum alloy".

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide either brake block of unique nodular-cast-iron and aluminum-bronze material for purpose of reducing maintenance without comprising, if not enhancing, braking force.